



**Office of the Attorney General
Paul G. Summers**

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ATTORNEY GENERAL DISMISSES MCMINNVILLE PRICE GOUGING
COMPLAINT**

The Attorney General's Office has filed papers to dismiss a complaint filed in Warren County Chancery Court regarding price gouging.

This Office relied upon a Warren County resident who swore in a signed affidavit she was charged \$7 a gallon at the market owned by Jess Whitlock, doing business as Whitlock's Grocery.

"After further investigation, it appears there was a misunderstanding over the posted gasoline price and a hand-written note on the pump doubling the price," General Summers said. "We feel confident Mr. Whitlock did not intend to mislead anyone about his gas price. We have informed Mr. Whitlock that we are dismissing the complaint."

General Summers reminded consumers to continue to be alert to potential price gouging in the aftermath of the national disaster caused by Hurricane Katrina. "We are taking price gouging complaints very seriously and want consumers to report any suspicious price hikes."

Price gouging carries penalties of up to \$1,000 per violation and is a Class B misdemeanor.

Consumers are urged to report any suspicious price hikes at 1-800-890-8366, 1-800-342-8385, 615-741-4737 or online at www.state.tn.us/consumer.